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EW/654

CASE 4-31673A



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1654

JOSEPH M. AULT

Examiner: Meller, Michael V.

APPLICATION NO: 10/006,311

FILED: DECEMBER 4, 2001

FOR: PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS FOR THE ORAL DELIVERY
OF PHARMACOLOGICALLY ACTIVE AGENTS

MS: Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In the above referenced office action, mailed on December 14, 2004, and having a period of response set to expire on March 14, 2004, the Applicants respectfully request the following amendment be entered and the claims considered in light thereof. Applicants also herein request a three month extension for this response as allowed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). The Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation for the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a).

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2. Remarks begin on page 4.